

V. REMARKS

Claims 1 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being allegedly unpatentable over Bricaud et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,544,074). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

A configuration of the first and second communication holes are added to claims 1 and 11, respectively. Since the first and second communication holes (215 and 216) are provided in an opposite manner, it would be easier to hold the contact while the housing is molded as shown in Fig. 5.

In Bricaud, however, two communication holes provided in an opposite manner are not disclosed (Fig. 4). It is respectfully submitted that the rejection is improper because the applied art fails to teach each element of claims 1 and 11 as now amended. Therefore, such a configuration is novel and would not be considered obvious to one skilled in the art. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1 and 11 are allowable over the applied art.

Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Bricaud. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 2 depends from claim 1 and includes all of the features of claim 1. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that claim 2 is allowable at least for the reason claim 1 is allowable as well as for the features it recites.

Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

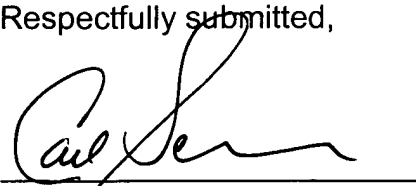
Claims 3, 9 and 10 have been amended to be consistent with product claim 1. It is respectfully submitted that the withdrawn, pending claims be rejoined. It is respectfully submitted that claim 1 is allowed.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration of the application and allowance of the pending claims are respectfully requested. Should the Examiner believe anything further is desirable in order to place the application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' representative at the telephone number listed below.

Should additional fees be necessary in connection with the filing of this paper or if a Petition for Extension of Time is required for timely acceptance of the same, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 18-0013 for any such fees and Applicant(s) hereby petition for such extension of time.

Respectfully submitted,

By:



Carl Schaukowitch
Reg. No. 29,211

Date: March 7, 2005

RADER, FISHMAN & GRAUER PLLC
1233 20th Street, N.W. Suite 501
Washington, D.C. 20036
Tel: (202) 955-3750
Fax: (202) 955-3751
Customer No. 23353

Enclosure(s): Amendment Transmittal
 Petition for Extension of Time (two months)

DC185540.DOC